

The spread of democracy has reduced tensions. High-speed communications make it harder for dictators to maintain the regimented societies that start wars against their neighbors.

Kennedy took a risk in 1963 when he limited the ability of the United States to test nuclear weapons at the height of the Cold War. The result was one of his greatest accomplishments. It demonstrated that good-faith negotiations could make the world safer and more secure. A treaty can't convert an evil heart into a good one. But it can reduce misunderstandings that sometimes lead to war.

Kennedy's treaty also laid a foundation of understanding on which further agreements could be negotiated. In 1974, the nuclear powers outlawed the testing of the largest nuclear weapons. In the 1980s, the inventory of U.S. and Soviet warheads and delivery systems was cut back in a series of arms-reduction pacts. In the 1990s, the drawdown of warheads continued and the nuclear non-proliferation pact was extended.

Yes, the practicality of eliminating nuclear weapons may continue to be debated. But it shouldn't be abandoned as a goal. Dramatic progress has been made in the past three decades toward making the world less warlike. More progress can reasonably be assumed, even if it occasionally means taking a calculated risk.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR SAM NUNN

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, over the course of the more than 40 years I have spent in the U.S. Senate, I have had the good fortune to serve with a number of people who have gone from being my colleagues to being my friends. Today, I rise to pay tribute to one such individual, SAM NUNN, who I am sad to note is ending his career in this body at the conclusion of the 104th Congress.

It is perhaps only natural that SAM would come to be one of my closest friends in the Senate, as we have much in common. To begin with, we represent neighboring States, and almost immediately after SAM arrived in the Senate, we began working together on a number of issues that were, and are, of concern and importance to our constituents. From 1972 to almost literally this day, SAM and I have cooperated on any number of matters, such as the Savannah River Site or Fort Gordon, that affect both our States. It would probably be safe to say that for many residents of South Carolina, SAM NUNN is like a third Senator to them. Additionally, I served with his great-uncle Carl Vinson, as well as with SAM's predecessor, Richard Russell, both of whom were true legends of the U.S. Senate, as well as great Georgians. Finally, we are both veterans, SAM served ably in the U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve, where he helped to protect our shores and maritime interests and undoubtedly learned the importance of a modern, well trained, and well equipped military.

Without question, I think the bond between SAM and I grew strongest during the years we spent together on the Senate Armed Services Committee, where we worked together to provide

for the defense of the Nation. In the 24 years he served on that Committee, SAM went from a freshman member to one of the Nation's most knowledgeable and respected experts on defense matters. In the process, he became the Committee's Chairman and Ranking Member, and played an important and influential role in the shaping of American defense policy during the cold War, and post-cold war eras. I have known no small number of committee chairmen in my time, and I certainly rank SAM NUNN as one of the most able and dedicated men to hold a position of such importance and responsibility.

Mr. President, SAM NUNN is known by the media, the public, and by his colleagues in Congress as a serious-minded individual, who approaches matters before him critically and carefully. Undoubtedly, his training as a lawyer and his service as a member of the Georgia House of Representatives, helped prepare him for his duties in the U.S. Senate. During his time in this Body, SAM NUNN has represented the people of his State thoroughly and effectively, and he helped to turn the American military into the finest fighting force that history has known. I know that come January, I will miss SAM both as a colleague and friend, but I also know that I am glad he has spent the last 24 years in the Senate, and I am certain that he will continue to work to influence public policy and to ensure that the United States remains the strongest Nation in the world.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, perhaps one of the greatest characteristics of our form of government is that it encourages literally anybody and everybody to seek elected office. As a result, we have avoided the creation of an elite ruling class, and the men and women who represent us in public office are individuals of diverse, interesting, and unique backgrounds. Just look to the 100 members of this Body and you will find a richly varied collection of experience and professions among our colleagues, and Senator BILL BRADLEY has perhaps the most unique background of our colleagues.

Though not a native son of the Garden State, BILL BRADLEY has been a part of New Jersey and the Northeast since his days as a history student at Princeton University. Clearly his time on that campus helped to influence how he would spend his years as an adult. A star member of the Tigers basketball team, BILL would serve as the Captain of the 1964 Olympic basketball team and eventually go on to play professional basketball for the New York Knicks for 10 years. BILL's excellence was not limited to under the baskets, his performance as a student earned him a coveted Rhodes Scholarship to the prestigious Oxford University where he received a master's degree.

For the past 18 years, BILL BRADLEY has ably represented the people of New

Jersey in this Body. During his career as a Senator, BILL has brought many of the traits he learned on the basketball courts, and in the halls of two of the world's greatest learning institutions, to this Chamber. Without question, he is a careful student of the issues that come before the Senate, and he is always a thoughtful contributor to our debates. In particular, he is a forceful and passionate advocate for matters that are particularly close to his heart, which include economic development, the environment, education, fighting crime, and promoting racial harmony and equality.

Mr. President, despite his popularity, Senator BRADLEY has decided not to seek a fourth term in the U.S. Senate. While we will miss his participation in the National debate, I am certain that he will continue to seek ways in which to serve New Jersey and the United States. I join my friends and colleagues in wishing him well in whatever he chooses to pursue.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, there are certain men and women who serve in the U.S. Senate who by their accomplishments or dedication to their constituents, have become stalwarts of this institution. Senator CLAIBORNE PELL of Rhode Island is one such man.

For the past 36 years, CLAIBORNE PELL has served capably and selflessly in this body, working hard to represent the interests and concerns of his constituents. In the process, he has championed a number of issues and measures that have become a regular and important part of life in America for many of our citizens. Among the accomplishments our colleague is most proud of are the establishment of PELL Grants, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Perhaps more than anything else, though, Senator PELL will be remembered for his commitment to the Foreign Relations Committee.

Given CLAIBORNE'S rich background in international affairs, it is not surprising that he should end up as one of this Body's and Nation's leading experts on foreign policy. Following his service as an officer in the Coast Guard during World War II, CLAIBORNE became a member of the Foreign Service, representing American interests in Czechoslovakia and Italy. Undoubtedly this extensive background was most beneficial to Senator PELL as he carried out his duties on the Committee on Foreign Relations, especially when he became its chairman.

A small State such as Rhode Island builds power and prestige through seniority, and during his almost four decades in the Senate CLAIBORNE PELL has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents. Without question, the "Ocean State" has benefitted greatly

from the dedicated service of its senior, and longest serving, Senator. Whoever replaces our friend in this Chamber will have a challenging task in attempting to match the commitment CLAIBORNE PELL brought to this job.

Mr. President, it has been a pleasure to have served with Senator PELL these many years. He is a man of integrity and ability who has done much to make our Nation a better and stronger place. I wish him great health and much happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JAMES EXON

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I doubt that one can get any closer to the "Heartland of America" than Nebraska, a State which lies in the middle of the Nation and is known for its plain talking, and well grounded people. One man who has exemplified those characteristics during his long and distinguished career in the U.S. Senate is JIM EXON, who is retiring this year and returning home to the Cornhusker State.

JIM is of the generation of Americans who are veterans of World War II, individuals who understand and honor the notions of public service, sacrifice, and patriotism. To men of Senator EXON's generation, there is no problem that cannot be solved by rolling up one's sleeves, and sitting down and working together toward a resolution. In his three terms in the Senate, he repeatedly demonstrated his commitment to keeping America strong, helping our Nation's farmers, and ensuring that our rural citizens had a voice in Congress.

Nebraskans have been well served by this Senator during the past 18 years, because he was well prepared for the responsibilities and demands of the U.S. Senate. A veteran, JIM's military experience taught him how to be tough, self-resilient, and achieve goals and objectives. As a businessman, JIM learned the importance of meeting a payroll and operating without undue interference from the Government. As the Governor of Nebraska, he combined his military and business experiences to be one of that State's most successful chief executives, earning two terms in that office, which was followed by his election to the U.S. Senate in 1978.

For the past eighteen years, I have had the pleasure of serving with JIM on the Senate Armed Services Committee. In his capacity as a member of that Committee, JIM has worked hard to help provide for the defense of the United States, and to ensure that our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to do their jobs, and to meet any threat, anywhere. Without question, his experiences as a soldier and non-commissioned officer in the World War II Pacific Theater certainly helped to shape how he approached making defense policy.

Mr. President, Senator JIM EXON has served his State and Nation admirably

and selflessly. He stands as an excellent example of the traditions of public service, and I hope that men and women in Nebraska and throughout the United States will follow the lead he has set to make America a better and stronger place for all her citizens.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DAVID PRYOR

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, on the nights when the Senate remains in session well past when most others have gone to bed, when tempers are short and most Members are frustrated that we have not made more progress, those are the times when a sense of humor really comes in handy. One colleague who consistently manages to find a bright spot when others only seem gloom, and who is able to find a humor in almost any situation, is our friend from Arkansas, DAVID PRYOR.

DAVID has capably represented the people of Arkansas as their Governor, and in both Houses of Congress. His career in our Nation's Capitol began in 1966 when he was first elected to the House of Representatives, and where he served in four Congresses. In 1979, he moved across the Hill to the Senate where he is about to complete his third term in office. Through his position on several key committees, DAVID has been able to work to make Arkansas an even better place to live, and I know his constituents are thankful for his efforts.

Though DAVID and I did not share any committee assignments, I have enjoyed serving with him in the Senate these many years. The "Sheriff", as I liked to call him as his father held that office in Arkansas, always approached his duties with enthusiasm and dedication, and he upheld the finest traditions of this institution. DAVID is truly a gentleman of the South, and I know that he will be missed by his many friends here in the Senate.

Mr. President, given the great number of successes Senator PRYOR has enjoyed throughout his life, I am certain that fate will again smile upon him in his career following the Senate. I wish good health and happiness in the years to come and am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve with him.

TRIBUTE TO SENATE SUPPORT STAFF

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, when one thinks of the U.S. Senate, most visualize this Chamber and the 100 Members as the greatest deliberative body in the world. To those of us who serve here though, we know that the Senate actually goes well beyond the floor and galleries found within these four walls and two stories of the Capitol.

One of the best kept secrets of the Senate are the people who work here and support our efforts in making the law. Especially critical to that process are a number of individuals who work

with us day in and day out. I would like to take a moment to recognize these people and the valuable services they render to us, the U.S. Senate, and the Nation.

This body is all about debate, and the chief Parliamentarian, Bob Dove, and his assistants are critical to keeping the debate running smoothly. These men and women have the unenviable responsibility of interpreting the exhaustive and sometimes confusing rules of the Senate. Without question, anyone who has sat in the President's Chair and presided over the Senate has been grateful for the assistance of these men and women when proceedings are suddenly bogged down in a tangled web of motions, countermotions, amendments, and objections. Somehow or another, the Parliamentarians are always able to sort things out and keep everything back on track.

Each year thousands of people visit the Senate to observe their representatives at work. After getting a taste of what are often dry, and somewhat technical discussions, they leave here to tour and enjoy the Smithsonian, the National Galleries of Art, or one of the many monuments around town. The Reporters of the Senate, however, are unable to walk away from this Chamber no matter how tedious debate gets. These men and women spend long hours on their feet, faithfully and accurately keeping a transcript of the proceedings of this body. These detailed notes are transcribed and printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in the matter of less than 24 hours, a truly impressive feat. Without question, the men and women who work for chief reporter Ron Kavulick are truly worthy of commendation for their seemingly boundless levels of energy, and their unflinching commitment to accuracy.

As each of us knows, the responsibilities of a Senator are not limited to this floor. We have committee meetings and hearings, leadership meetings, appointments with constituents, and many other matters which command our attention. Still, when it comes time for a vote, our place is here. The men and women in the Republican and Democratic Cloakrooms are largely responsible for helping us keep track of when measures are coming up, how much debate time has been allocated by the leadership, and when we need to be in the Chamber for votes. Our lives would be much more hectic if it were not for the helpful service of the Cloakroom personnel and I know that I speak for all the Members on this side of the aisle when I say that Hilary Newlin; Laura Martin; Brad Holsclaw; Michael Smythers; and Dave Schiappa all make our lives a little more organized and we greatly appreciate their efforts. The secretary for the majority, Elizabeth Greene, and her assistant, John Doney, can be proud of their cloakroom staff.

The two people who have been tasked with much of the physical and administrative matters of the Senate for most